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AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, MARCH QUARTER 1971

Reference No. 6.18

NOTE. In the previous issue of this publication reference was made to the revision of the series. This revision, which will provide new figures for each State from September quarter 1966 and for Australia from September quarter 1961, has not yet been completed. In the meantime, in order to provide an indication of recent changes in average earnings, the estimates for March quarter 1971 have been calculated on the same basis as for earlier periods.

The seasonally adjusted index for the manufacturing industry, which was published up to June quarter 1970, has not been included in this statement. This index was based on the average earnings of male wage and salary earners employed in factories as disclosed by annual manufacturing censuses, the factory census figures being used as benchmarks and estimates of movements for periods subsequent to the most recent manufacturing census being based on pay-roll tax data. The 1967-68 census was the last at which separate particulars of the average earnings of males and females were obtained. As the distance from this latest benchmark has lengthened and as there is no prospect of a further benchmark being available, the index has had to be discontinued.

The figures, which relate to civilians only, are derived from particulars of employment and wages and salaries recorded on pay-roll tax returns, from other direct collections and from estimates of the unrecorded balance. They have been calculated in terms of male units, i.e. total male employees plus 55 per cent of female employees, this proportion being derived from the estimated ratio of female to male earnings in Australia. Quarterly figures in money terms are affected by seasonal influences. Special payments, including prepayment for holiday periods, tend to raise the December quarter and to depress the March quarter averages. In addition, figures for all quarters may be affected by the changing incidence of pay-days. Allowance for these influences has been made in the calculation of the "Seasonally adjusted" index.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS PER EMPLOYED MALE UNIT (a)

Period	N.S.W. (b) \$	Vic. \$	Qld \$	S.A. (c) \$	W.A. \$	Tas. \$	Aust. \$	Seasonally adjusted index (d)
1968-69	71.60	71.20	62.60	64.30	67.20	64.10	68.90	211.7
1969-70	77.40	77.00	68.40	69.90	74.90	70.00	75.00	229.5
1969 Mar. qtr	69.60	69.50	60.10	63.10	65.60	62.20	67.20	215.7
June "	73.80	73.70	64.30	65.60	69.40	67.00	71.40	218.2
Sept. "	74.90	75.00	66.60	67.70	72.00	67.20	72.80	221.7
Dec. "	80.60	80.00	71.40	72.30	76.60	72.60	78.00	225.0
1970 Mar. "	73.50	73.10	64.70	67.40	71.60	65.40	71.30	234.0
June "	80.40	79.90	70.70	72.10	77.00	73.30	77.80	237.2
Sept. "	81.60	81.10	72.60	74.20	79.20	73.10	79.20	240.3
Dec. "	87.80	86.50	78.20	78.40	84.80	78.20	84.80	245.1
1971 Mar. "	83.60	82.00	74.10	75.20	81.50	73.10	80.60	263.1

(a) In addition to award rates of pay, includes earnings of salaried employees, over-time earnings, over-award and bonus payments, payments made in advance or retrospectively during the period specified, etc. See explanatory notes above. (b) Includes the Australian Capital Territory. (c) Includes the Northern Territory. (d) Base : year 1953-54 = 100. Not yet adjusted by the programs used for other Bureau series, as described in "Seasonally Adjusted Indicators 1970" (Reference No. 1.10). *r-revised*

NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 63 9111 extension 2347 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.